

CLAIMS

What is claimed to be new and desired to be protected by Letters Patent is set forth in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. An apparatus for attachment to an ice fishing tip-up for signaling to a fisherman that a fish strike has occurred, in combination comprising:
 - a) a tip-up for use when ice fishing, said tip-up having an elongated base for spanning an ice fishing hole, said tip-up having first and second opposing ends, an elongated flag pole disposed on said first end of said base, said flag pole having first and second opposing ends, wherein said second end of said flag pole is resiliently movably mounted to said first end of said base to permit movement of the flagpole from a substantially vertical position to a substantially horizontal position, an elongated downward extending arm disposed intermediate said base, said arm having first and second opposing ends, a flag pole engaging member being disposed on said first end of said arm so that said flag pole is held in a substantially horizontal position when engaged by said member, wherein said arm has a fishing line with a hook attached thereto disposed on said second end of said arm, wherein said first end of said arm is movable by the action of a fish striking the hook, wherein said flagpole is disengaged from said flag pole

engaging member by the movement of said first end of said arm, wherein said flag pole moves to a substantially vertical position when disengaged from said flag pole engaging member;

b) means for a light disposed on said first end of said flag pole whereby a light turns on when a fish strikes the hook and the flag pole moves to a substantially vertical position;

c) means for receiving and applying a potential to said means for a light whereby the light means can be powered; and,

d) means for electrical interconnection joining said means for a light and said means for receiving and applying a potential whereby electrical current flows.

2. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said means for a light comprises a flashing light.

3. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said means for a light comprises an electronically controlled flashing light.

4. The apparatus of Claim 2, wherein said means for a light comprises a wireless RF signal transmitter to permit a signal to be transmitted to a wireless RF signal receiver.

5. The apparatus of Claim 4, further comprising a flag disposed on said flag pole to permit a fisherman to be signaled that a fish strike has occurred.

6. The apparatus of Claim 5, wherein said means for a light comprises:

- a) a light control assembly having a top cover connected to a bottom cover;
- b) a sealing gasket disposed between said top cover and said bottom cover;
- c) an electronic circuit disposed internal said light control assembly; and,
- d) a light disposed on said circuit board to provide a signal to a fisherman that a fish strike has occurred.

7. The apparatus of Claim 6, further comprising a light socket being disposed on said electronic circuit for receiving said light to permit the light to be replaced.

8. The apparatus of Claim 7, further comprising a mercury switch being disposed in said electronic circuit to permit the light to turn on when the flag pole is moved to the substantially vertical position.

9. The apparatus of Claim 8, further comprising a rolling ball style

switch being disposed in said electronic circuit to permit the light to turn on when the flag pole is moved to the substantially vertical position.

10. The apparatus of Claim 9, further comprising a microcontroller being disposed in said electronic circuit for controlling said light and said transmitter.

11. The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein said means for receiving and applying a potential comprises a portable power source being disposed as an integral part of said flag pole to permit the light to be powered.

12. The apparatus of Claim 11, wherein said portable power source is a battery.

13. The apparatus of Claim 12, wherein said means for electrical interconnection comprises said flag pole having a bore therein, wherein electrical wires pass through said bore to connect said light to said portable power source.

14. The apparatus of Claim 13, wherein said means for electrical interconnection comprises an on/off switch for controlling the apparatus.

15. The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein second end of said flag pole comprises a spring so that the flag pole is resiliently mounted to said base.

16. The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein said means for receiving and applying a potential comprises a portable power source disposed as an integral part on said base of said tip-up to lower the center of gravity of the apparatus.

17. The apparatus of Claim 16, wherein said means for electrical interconnection comprises said flag pole having a bore therein, wherein electrical wires pass through said bore to connect said light to said portable power source.

18. The apparatus of Claim 17, wherein said means for electrical interconnection comprises an on/off switch for controlling the apparatus.

19. The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein second end of said flag pole comprises a spring so that the flag pole is resiliently mounted to said base.